

## **Edwin Narain, Assistant Vice President External Affairs FirstNet**

Attorney Edwin A. Narain has been an active leader for more than 25 years in the Tampa Bay community.

Ed's journey in leadership began in 1997 with his election as student body president at the University of South Florida. From there, Ed's commitment to help others – especially children and the working poor – has included serving on local boards such as the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, the Head Start Policy Council, and the Community Action Board. A life member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Ed has served as the polemarch (president) of the Tampa Alumni Chapter. In 2008, he was honored as the chapter's "Man of the Year" and earned in 2010 the chapter's Leadership Award for his work leading the chapter to its first Southern Province Chapter of the Year Award. Ed is also a member of Leadership Florida's College Leadership Florida (Class I) and Connect Florida (Class IV) statewide leadership programs.

In 2014, Ed entered public service with his election to the Florida House of Representatives. There, he passed several important pieces of legislation including the Dozier School for Boys, Arthur Greene Jr. act and Research and Development Tax credit bill. As a freshman member, Ed's peers selected him to chair the Florida Legislative Black Caucus. His legislative service earned him the Florida Association of Counties - County Champion Award (2015) and Legislative Appreciation Awards from the Florida League of Cities and Florida Boys and Girls Clubs (2016). He also was awarded two prestigious "Distinguished Advocate" awards from the Florida Chamber of Commerce and was named the Florida Society of Health Systems Pharmacists "Legislator of the Year."

Ed's footprints of service extends to his job as Vice President of External and Legislative Affairs with AT&T, where he is a three-time Florida Top Performance Manager of the Year (2009, 2010, and 2013) and has earned two AT&T Summit Awards for being among the company's top achievers.

Ed is married to Monica, a public-school teacher, and together they have two young daughters. As founders of the Black Leadership Network at the University of South Florida, they are the endowers of the Narain Family Scholarship that provides financial assistance to African-American students enrolled at the university. In late 2020 he was awarded the H.L. Culbreath Jr. Profile in Leadership Award by the Tampa Bay Chamber for his service; becoming the youngest recipient in the awards history.

Ed earned his Jurist Doctorate from Stetson University College of Law. He holds a masters in business administration and a bachelors in psychology from Saint Leo University where he serves on the Board of Trustees and chairs the Student Affairs committee.

### **Other Honors and Recognitions**

2015 – University of South Florida's President's African American Advisory Committee's Ike Tribble Alumni Award.

2019 – Named an Honorary Hillsborough County Deputy

2020 – First African American elected Chairperson of the Hillsborough County Charter Review Board